

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 4 May 1951

SUBJECT Russian Materiel Arriving at Varna; Uranium Ore Shipments to Russia.

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1. Only Russian ships are coming to the port of Varna. Until last year these ships brought cotton, iron and trucks; but since then they have been bringing ammunition and war materiel. This war materiel appears to be tanks and guns, covered with wax cloths. It is unloaded at night only, by military personnel, and immediately transported to different places in Bulgaria. [redacted] five or six large ships loaded with ammunition had arrived at Varna up to the first part of March.

25X1

- Exports from Bulgaria to Russia include beans, animals and cement. An important ore is being exported. It is rumored among the dock workers that this material is used in the construction of atom bombs. The Militia supervises the arrival of the ore at the docks on railroad cars and the loading of the vessels. After the loading every worker is searched and the cars are swept clean so that not even any dust of the ore remains. [redacted] a load of 4,000 to 5,000 tons of this material is shipped every month or two.

25X1

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